National Dredging Conference
Doing Business with Safety

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Dredging and Marine Accident update

- The majority of fatalities and major accidents involved collisions/ navigation
- There were fewer USACE dredge contractor serious accidents reported in the last year than in 2004-05

Deck Rail Regulation Draft

- History - USACE has been developing a new standard for the EM 385-1-1 section 19 to address “deck railings”
- Fall protection systems are currently required for falls over 6 feet onto hard surfaces
- This standard will address “overboard protection” for main deck

Deck Rail Regulation Draft

- Final draft has been reviewed by USACE and by industry
- Comments were focused on minor details, basic rule is intact
- USACE Ops and Safety working with the MDC to add final touches, should be published this summer

Deck Rail Regulation Draft

- New standard will be implemented over a 3- year period
- Vessels with no railing system will need addition within 18 months
- Existing rails must be rebuilt (as needed) within 3 years

Inflatable PFD Program

- USACE has concluded the major work with the manufacturers on design requirements
- 3 models meet USACE standards and USCG commercial standards (less than 40 feet, uninspected)
- USACE Program is in field test phase now, observing safety and practicality
- Limited applicability to USACE and contractor vessels

EM 385-1-1 Update

- Continue to add interim changes based on field requests
- Major update/ rewrite scheduled for FY 08 – work to be done in FY 07 involving field personnel, contractors, and safety.
- Recommend that manual reviews be part of safety training

EM 385-1-1 Interim Updates

- USACE welcomes suggestions from partners (contractors, agencies) on manual improvements
- Most changes come from interpretations or waiver requests, but can be from suggestions
- Project development teams (PDTs) include Industry in their membership or research

EM 385-1-1 Interim Updates

- Suggested changes should be sent to:
  - Ellen Stewart - ellen.b.stewart@usace.army.mil
  - Karl Anderson – karl.a.anderson@usace.army.mil
- For interpretations and waivers, continue to work through the local District

Safety Focus

- The Army and USACE continue to maintain a strong focus on safety in all of our missions
- We are committed to working with our industry partners to prevent losses and develop the best practices
- Army is using Composite Risk Management as a way to asses hazards to individuals as well as the success of the mission

Questions?